

What is claimed is:

1. A drug dosage form comprising a thyroid hormone and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient prepared under conditions of low compression.
2. The drug dosage form of claim 1 comprising a capsule.
3. The drug dosage form of claim 1 comprising a capsule formed of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.
4. The drug dosage form of claim 1 wherein the hormone is contained in solid form within a capsule.
5. The drug dosage form of claim 1 wherein the form is subjected to no compression in excess of about 10,000 psi/g.
6. The drug dosage form of claim 1 wherein the form is subjected to no compression in excess of about 5,000 psi/g.
7. The drug dosage form of claim 1 wherein the form is subjected to no compression in excess of about 2,000 psi/g.
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8. The drug dosage form of claim 1 wherein the excipient is hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, amorphous silicon dioxide, magnesium stearate, starch, sodium starch glycolate, or a combination thereof.
9. The drug dosage form of claim 1 wherein the excipient has a residual moisture content of less than about 10% by weight.

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10. The drug dosage form of claim 1 exhibiting improved stability to moisture-induced degradation of the hormone as compared with a tabletted form of the hormone.
 11. The drug dosage form of claim 1 comprising a unit dosage form.
 12. A drug dosage form comprising levothyroxine and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient prepared under conditions of low compression.
 13. The drug dosage form of claim 12 comprising a capsule.
 14. The drug dosage form of claim 12 comprising a capsule formed of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.
 15. The drug dosage form of claim 12 wherein the levothyroxine is contained in solid form within a capsule.
 16. The drug dosage form of claim 12 wherein the form is subjected to no compression in excess of about 10,000 psi/g.
 17. The drug dosage form of claim 12 wherein the form is subjected to no compression in excess of about 5,000 psi/g.
 18. The drug dosage form of claim 12 wherein the form is subjected to no compression in excess of about 2,000 psi/g.
 19. The drug dosage form of claim 12 wherein the excipient is hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, amorphous silicon

dioxide, magnesium stearate, starch, sodium starch glycolate, or a combination thereof.

20. The drug dosage form of claim 12 wherein the excipient has a residual moisture content of less than about 10% by weight.
21. The drug dosage form of claim 12 exhibiting improved stability to moisture-induced degradation of the levothyroxine as compared with a tabletted form of the levothyroxine.
22. The drug dosage form of claim 12 comprising a unit dosage form.
23. The drug dosage form of claim 12 wherein the levothyroxine is purified levothyroxine.
(24)
24. A drug dosage form for a thyroid drug comprising the drug admixed with a substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.
25. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein the oil is an animal or vegetable oil.
26. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein said oil is olive, corn, peanut, nut, soy, rapeseed, cottonseed, vitamin E, fish, or tallow-derived oil.
27. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein the oil is a mineral oil or silicone oil.
28. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein the drug - oil admixture is present within a capsule.
29. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein the drug - oil admixture is present within a soft shell capsule.

30. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein the drug - oil admixture is present within a specially sealed hard-shell capsule.
31. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein at least some of the drug - oil admixture is adsorbed on a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
32. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein the excipient having the drug - oil admixture adsorbed thereupon is within a capsule.
33. The drug dosage form of claim 24 wherein the excipient having the drug - oil admixture adsorbed thereupon is within a tablet.
- (34.) A drug dosage form for levothyroxine comprising the levothyroxine admixed with a substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.
35. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the oil is an animal or vegetable oil.
36. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein said oil is olive, corn, peanut, nut, soy, rapeseed, cottonseed, vitamin E, fish, or tallow-derived oil.
37. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the oil is a mineral oil or silicone oil.
38. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the levothyroxine - oil admixture is present within a capsule.
39. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the levothyroxine - oil admixture is present within a soft shell capsule.

40. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the levothyroxine - oil admixture is present within a specially sealed hard-shell capsule.
41. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein at least some of the levothyroxine - oil admixture is adsorbed on a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
42. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the excipient having the levothyroxine - oil admixture adsorbed thereupon is within a capsule.
43. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the excipient having the levothyroxine - oil admixture adsorbed thereupon is within a tablet.
44. The drug dosage form of claim 34 wherein the levothyroxine is purified levothyroxine.
45. A drug dosage form for a thyroid drug comprising the drug and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient admixed with a substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.
46. The drug dosage form of claim 45 wherein the oil is an animal or vegetable oil.
47. The drug dosage form of claim 45 wherein said oil is olive, corn, peanut, nut, soy, rapeseed, cottonseed, vitamin E, fish, or tallow-derived oil.
48. The drug dosage form of claim 45 wherein the oil is a mineral oil or silicone oil.
49. The drug dosage form of claim 45 wherein the thyroid drug and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a capsule.

50. The drug dosage form of claim 45 wherein the thyroid drug and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a tablet.
- (51) A drug dosage form for levothyroxine comprising the levothyroxine and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient admixed with a substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.
52. The drug dosage form of claim 51 wherein the oil is an animal or vegetable oil.
53. The drug dosage form of claim 51 wherein said oil is olive, corn, peanut, nut, soy, rapeseed, cottonseed, vitamin E, fish, or tallow-derived oil.
54. The drug dosage form of claim 51 wherein the oil is a mineral oil or silicone oil.
55. The drug dosage form of claim 51 wherein the levothyroxine and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a capsule.
56. The drug dosage form of claim 51 wherein the levothyroxine and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a tablet.
57. The drug dosage form of claim 51 wherein the levothyroxine is purified levothyroxine.
- (58) A drug dosage form comprising a thyroid drug admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable oil together with a first pharmaceutically acceptable excipient admixed with a second pharmaceutically acceptable oil.
59. The drug dosage form of claim 58 wherein the first and the second pharmaceutically acceptable oils are, independently, an animal or vegetable oil.

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- 60. The drug dosage form of claim 58 wherein the first and the second pharmaceutically acceptable oils are, independently, olive, corn, peanut, nut, soy, rapeseed, cottonseed, vitamin E, fish, or tallow-derived oil.
 - 61. The drug dosage form of claim 58 wherein the first and the second pharmaceutically acceptable oils are, independently, a mineral oil or silicone oil.
 - 62. The drug dosage form of claim 58 wherein the drug - oil admixture and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a capsule.
 - 63. The drug dosage form of claim 58 wherein the drug - oil admixture and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a tablet.
 - (64.) A drug dosage form comprising levothyroxine admixed with a first pharmaceutically acceptable oil together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient admixed with a second pharmaceutically acceptable oil.
 - 65. The drug dosage form of claim 64 wherein the first and the second pharmaceutically acceptable oils are, independently, an animal or vegetable oil.
 - 66. The drug dosage form of claim 64 wherein the first and the second pharmaceutically acceptable oils are, independently, olive, corn, peanut, nut, soy, rapeseed, cottonseed, vitamin E, fish, or tallow-derived oil.
 - 67. The drug dosage form of claim 64 wherein the first and the second pharmaceutically acceptable oils are, independently, a mineral oil or silicone oil.

68. The drug dosage form of claim 64 wherein the levothyroxine - oil admixture and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a capsule.
69. The drug dosage form of claim 64 wherein the levothyroxine - oil admixture and the excipient - oil admixture are present within a tablet.
70. The drug dosage form of claim 64 wherein the levothyroxine is purified levothyroxine.
- (71. A drug dosage form comprising a thyroid hormone and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hydrophobic powder.
72. The drug dosage form of claim 71 wherein the hydrophobic powder is triturated directly with the thyroid hormone.
73. The drug dosage form of claim 71 wherein the hydrophobic powder is magnesium stearate.
74. A drug dosage form comprising levothyroxine and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hydrophobic powder.
75. The drug dosage form of claim 74 wherein the hydrophobic powder is triturated directly with the levothyroxine.
76. The drug dosage form of claim 74 wherein the hydrophobic powder is magnesium stearate.
77. The drug dosage form of claim 74 wherein the levothyroxine is purified levothyroxine.

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78.

A method for administering a thyroid hormone to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the hormone which has not been processed employing high compression.

79.

A method for administering levothyroxine to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the levothyroxine which has not been processed employing high compression.

80.

A method for administering a thyroid hormone to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the thyroid hormone admixed with a substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.

81. The method of claim 80 wherein the thyroid hormone - oil admixture is present within a capsule.

82. The method of claim 80 wherein the thyroid hormone - oil admixture is adsorbed on a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

83. A method for administering levothyroxine to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the levothyroxine admixed with a substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.

84. The method of claim 83 wherein the levothyroxine - oil admixture is present within a capsule.

85. The method of claim 83 wherein the levothyroxine - oil admixture is adsorbed on a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

86. A method for administering a thyroid hormone to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the thyroid hormone and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient admixed with a

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substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.

(87.) A method for administering levothyroxine to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the levothyroxine and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient admixed with a substantially non-volatile, pharmaceutically acceptable oil.

(88.) A method for administering a thyroid hormone to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the thyroid hormone and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hydrophobic powder.

(89.) A method for administering levothyroxine to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the levothyroxine and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hydrophobic powder.

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